

# Senate Resolution 39 - Introduced

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S.R. \_\_\_\_\_ H.R. \_\_\_\_\_

1 1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_  
1 2 BY HARTSUCH  
1 3 A Resolution to declare the third week of October,  
1 4 2007, Disability History Week in Iowa.  
1 5 WHEREAS, on July 26, 2006, Americans celebrated the  
1 6 16th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities  
1 7 Act (ADA); and  
1 8 WHEREAS, since the ADA was enacted into law in  
1 9 1990, many changes have been made, creating a more  
1 10 accessible environment for America's approximately  
1 11 51.2 million people with disabilities; and  
1 12 WHEREAS, there are almost 400,000 persons with  
1 13 disabilities living in Iowa, according to the 2000  
1 14 United States Census; and  
1 15 WHEREAS, this number qualifies persons with  
1 16 disabilities as Iowa's largest minority group; and  
1 17 WHEREAS, Americans with disabilities face a 44  
1 18 percent unemployment rate; and  
1 19 WHEREAS, public attitudes continue to stigmatize  
1 20 people with disabilities as being less capable than  
1 21 those without disabilities; and  
1 22 WHEREAS, many people with disabilities feel that  
1 23 stigma and therefore are not comfortable talking about  
1 24 their disability; and  
1 25 WHEREAS, attitudes are formed at a young age; and  
1 26 WHEREAS, the curriculum in many Iowa schools  
1 27 includes information about the civil rights movement  
1 28 and women's rights movement, exposing students to the  
1 29 accomplishments of other minority groups; and  
1 30 WHEREAS, individuals with disabilities have  
2 1 achieved similar victories as a result of the  
2 2 disability rights movement; and  
2 3 WHEREAS, many famous people, including Ludwig Von  
2 4 Beethoven, Alexander Graham Bell, and Franklin Delano  
2 5 Roosevelt have been people with disabilities; and  
2 6 WHEREAS, students are not typically exposed to the  
2 7 disability rights movement; and  
2 8 WHEREAS, many Iowa teachers believe that their  
2 9 students should learn about the history and  
2 10 accomplishments of individuals with disabilities; and  
2 11 WHEREAS, Iowans with disabilities are eager to  
2 12 share their history and accomplishments with young  
2 13 people; and  
2 14 WHEREAS, such education will improve public  
2 15 attitudes toward individuals with disabilities for  
2 16 generations to come; NOW THEREFORE,  
2 17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the third week  
2 18 of October, 2007, be declared Disability History Week  
2 19 in Iowa; and  
2 20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa Department of  
2 21 Education is requested to encourage schools to conduct  
2 22 disability awareness activities during this week and  
2 23 to work with Iowa disability organizations to develop  
2 24 and disseminate a list of curriculum resources and  
2 25 presenters to assist schools in carrying out these  
2 26 activities.  
2 27 LSB 2850SS 82  
2 28 jr:nh/je/5